to some unknown disease which creates a further suspicion in the minds of the people. 1, therefore, want the Minister of External Affairs to clarify the position by giving a statement in this House.

SHRI E. BALANANDAN (Kerala) : I associate myself with what my friend has just said. I have the experience of having intervened in several cases which 1 brought to the notice of the Ministry of External Affairs. But no proper action has been taken. Therefore, I request the Government to come out with a statement before this House regarding our Indians who are working in those countries and also earning valuable foreign exchange for the country. They should be given full protection by our Government and this matter should be taken seriously by the Government.

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES (Goa) : The Government is silent on this issue and I would request the Government to see, when these dead bodies come to the Indian soil, whether criminal cases can be filed against the foreign nationals, because we cannot allow this situation to go on like this.

SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL (Madhya Pradesh) : I would like to associate myself with what my friend Mr. Narayanasamy said regarding the problems faced by the workers from Kerala and Tamil Nadu who are employed in desert areas. The way they have been treated or the casual way their interests are ignored by the Government, is a very serious matter which should be taken note of.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I feel it is a serious matter. The Leader of the House is here. More than two million Indian people are working abroad, in the Gulf countries. I think the Ministry of External Affairs should find out the details whether these deaths were natural or, as Mr. Narayanasamy feels, there is some foul play. We should find out because there should be no fear in the minds of our people that our Indian people working in the Gulf countries are being subjected to such treatment.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN) : I would request the External Affairs Minister to find out the facts and give a statement in the House.

Extending ban on LTTE for another *two* years

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN (Tamil Nadu) : Thank you for giving me the opportunity to raise this matter.

Madam, the ban on the LTTE by the Government of India under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (Act 37 of 1967) by way of a Notification was declared on 14th May, 1992, in pursuance of the request of the Tamil Nadu Government. This ban expires on May 14, 1994, that is, within 25 days.

In view of the all-India ramification of the LTTE and their nexus with other militant outfits in many other States of our country,... such as Kashmir, Punjab, Assam and Andhra Pradesh, it is necessary for the Central Government to extend the ban on its activities all over India for a further period of two years so as to safeguard the unity, the integrity and the sovereignty of our country which they challenged by the assassination of our beloved leader, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the former Prime Minister of India, on the Tamil Nadu soil.

The Tamil Nadu Government had already sent a report to the Home Ministry and had requested as far back as 28th January, 1994, with necessary supporting material to extend the ban on the L.T.T.E. The Tamil Nadu Government had also replied, on three occasions, to the letters received from the Home Ministry. The Inspector-General of Police of the Tamil Nadu Special Investigating Team had also met the Home Ministry officials twice and had helped in the drafting of the note for the Cabinet. Therefore, the matter is pending with the Government of India for immediate action.

Madam, the L.T.T.E. activities have not only ramifications in many States within the country, but it has also extended its activities to many places abroad, such as London, Paris, Geneva, Bonn, Toronto, etc., by way of having its offices there. Hence, concerted action is necessary by the Government of India to curtail its activities.

The ban has to be extended by the Central Government and not by the State Government. The Criminal Amendment Act. 1908, of Tamil Nadu, as amended in 1950. wherein the term 'unlawful assembly' had been defined, had already been struck down by the Madras High Court and the Supreme Court as *ultra vires* of article 19 of the Constitution. The Tamil Nadu Government has no other Act. at present, to ban the L.T.T.E. Even if we enact a new law, it would be insufficient to control the L.T.T.E., since they would operate from Karaikal and Pondicherry, besides other nearby places such as Chittor in Andhra Pradesh, and Bangalore in Karnataka. Therefore, the advice of the Home Minister at Madras recently that the Tamil Nadu Government can ban the L.T.T.E. is untenable.

Madam, the Tamil Nadu Assembly has passed a Resolution yesterday, on 20th April, 1994, calling for extending the ban on the L.T.T.E. by the Central Government before 11th May, 1994. I am sorry that in spite of the repeated requests of the Tamil Nadu Government and by our

hon. Chief Minister, the Central Government has not taken any decision so far on this vital issue. It is strange that the Congress Party which is the main Opposition in the Tamil Nadu Assembly boycotted the House, did not participate in the debate and support the Resolution.

It is strange that a vicious propaganda is being unleashed and a canard is being spread that the hon. Chief Minister is attempting to compromise with the L.T.T.E. and that a free access is being given to them in Tamil Nadu as a *quid pro quo* for the safety of her life. Nothing can be farther from the truth than this. It is she who has put down the L.T.T.E. in Tamil Nadu with a firm hand, consequent to which they have fled to the other States in the country. She is the most threatened politician by the L.T.T.E. as on date. In spite of this, she is taking all courageous action, including the passing of a Resolution in the Tamil Nadu Assembly.

Now, the ball is the court of the Tamil Nadu Assembly. I strongly plead with the Central Government to take immediate and firm action in the matter and extend the ban on the L.T.T.E. for a further period of two years from 11th May, 1994, without any further delay. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondi- without any further delay . . . *(Interruptions)*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : First of all, let me set the record clear. Mr. Swaminathan, while concluding, said that the ball was now in the court of Tamil Nadu. Then, you can kick it out.

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN : Madam, it is a slip. The ball is now in the court of the Central Government.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN) : Madam, may I say something? I do not know why there is such an unnecessary controversy raised on the question of banning the L.T.T.E. In the name of the L.T.T.E., all kinds of speeches are being made both in the Tamil Nadu Assembly and by very responsible leaders of the A.I.A.D.M.K. I can assure them that we have nothing against the Tamil Nadu Go eminent. In regard to what they have reported to us, if they can substantiate the kind of material that is required for the banning of an organisation, certainly, we will do it. But I must also mention the fact that we are not the final authority. Ultimately, this would go again to the Tribunal for their scrutiny. That is why we have to be careful and weigh everything propertlv before we take a decision ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN (Tamil Nadu) : Madam, I have to say something.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Add.

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN : Instead of banning the L.T.T.E., the Tamil Nadu Government is trying to suppress the Opposition there. They are throwing the Opposition Members out of the Assembly. Now it is serious, Madam. It is precarious. Some eight or nine MLAs are on a *dharna.* .. . *(Interruptions)* . . . The Chief Minister and her irresponsible Government are indulging in oppress'on and suppression of the Opposition. They have no right to continue as a Government there. I plead with the Central Government to dismiss that Government and take necessary action to bring normalcy there. There is no other alternative. That Government should go. That inept Government should go, that irresponsible leadership should go. . . . (*Interruptions)* . . .

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The Home Minister has very categorcally said that their Government is not against 'he Tamil Nadu Government. Let me tall Shri M. A. Baby.

SHRI IAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Madam, one minute.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I don't want to continue the same controversy because, you will speak something and I will have trouble because of that. Now let me call Shri Baby.

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथूर : मेरा नाम है आपके पास ।

उपसभापति : नहीं, आपका नाम नहीं है ।

Hinduja's Accounts in Swiss Banks

SHRI M. A. BABY (Kerala) : Madam, thank you for perm'tting me to raise this important issue. I hope Chavanji would stay back to listen to this important issue.

Madam, whenever everybody feels that a safe burial is being given to the Bofors issue, with interesting and mysterious capabilities it surfaces again. Today's *Statesman* has reported about the "famous" Hindujas—I don't know whether I should add "in" before "famous" while referring to the Hindujas. It said that the senior among the Hinduja brothers has come out with a statement on the 19th that they are willing to open their company's accounts, that is, the Jubilee Finance's accounts, in Swiss banks for scrutiny in order to clear themselves of the suspicion and doubt that they are involved in the Bofors' ki:kebacks.

Madam, we may recall that the Swiss Federal Court, to their satisfaction, with sufficient proof, came out with the revelation that the three Hinduja brothers have been having separate accounts in Switzerland, and Bofors' kickbacks money has